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To Donna Jackson/P2/R8/USEPA/US@EPA, Connally
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Swanson/ENF/R8/USEPA/US@EPA
cc Sharon Kercher/ENF/R8/USEPA/US@EPA
bcc
Subject Telephone Record: Glenn Rogers re: Hecla Pond 2
Inspection

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION RECORD: Glenn Rogers, Chairman, Shiwits Band of the Paiute Tribe

October 19, 2004

The purpose of my telephone call was to inform Glenn Rogers of the upcoming EPA inspection at Hecla Pond #2. The inspection was scheduled for October 27-28, 2004. Mr. Rogers was informed that I would be inspecting Hecla Mining Company's Pond #2 closure activities, including the dewatering operation. I offered to meet with a tribal member while on-site during the inspection, and informed Mr. Rogers that I would be at the site on October 27th (1:30 pm - 4:00 pm), and October 28th (8 am - 12:00 noon). Mr. Rogers wasn't sure if Lawrence Snow, representative for the Tribe, could make the inspection, but he would tell Lawrence. I told Mr. Rogers that I would also fax/mail a copy of a letter from EPA informing him of the Hecla Pond #2 inspection (this was accomplished on October 25, 2004 - a copy of "EPA Correspondence Chronology Regarding EPA Investigation of Hecla Mining Company - Apex Site Pond 2" was also enclosed with the letter).

Mr. Rogers wondered if the waste pile could be removed, instead of covered and left on the Paiute Reservation. He asked about the leachate coming from the waste pile and when would it stop leaching. I informed Mr. Rogers that several EPA engineers had conducted investigations over the years, collected many soil samples, etc. and felt there would not be any impacts to groundwater or surface water if Hecla's mining wastes were left on-site (these are RCRA exempt wastes under the Bevill Amendment). It became obvious from my conversation with Mr. Rogers that he had probably not reviewed the many reports, correspondence, etc. regarding the closure of Pond #2. I asked Mr. Rogers if he read any of the materials EPA and/or Hecla Mining Company had sent him. The answer was "no."

I told Mr. Rogers that I would be sending him a copy of my inspection report. He mentioned that Lawrence Snow should also receive a copy of the report. Lawrence Snow and Glenn Rogers are the primary Tribal contacts regarding issues dealing with Hecla Pond #2 closure activities.

NOTE: this inspection was later postponed on October 25th due to rainy weather. Another letter will be sent to the Tribe announcing EPA's inspection of Hecla's Pond #2 closure activities.